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May 29, 2014

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FIRM/AFFILIATE OFFICES

BY HAND

Honorable Thomas P. Griesa United States District Judge United States District Court Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, New York 10007

Re: Spectrum Select, L.P. v. Tremont Grp. Holdings and related cases, Nos. 12 Civ. 9057, 12 Civ. 9058, 12 Civ. 9060, 12 Civ. 9061, 12 Civ. 9062, 12 Civ. 9063, 12 Civ. 9064 (TPG)

Dear Judge Griesa:

Yesterday, the Second Circuit issued an opinion in <u>In re Herald, Primeo and Thema</u>, No. 12-156-cv (2d Cir. May 28, 2014) ("<u>Herald II</u>"), which denied petitions for panel rehearing of an earlier decision construing and applying the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998 ("SLUSA"), 15 U.S.C. § 78bb(f). <u>See</u> 730 F.3d 113 (2d Cir. 2013) ("<u>Herald I</u>"). A copy of the decision in <u>Herald II</u> is attached.

In <u>Herald II</u>, the Second Circuit found that the Supreme Court's decision in <u>Chadbourne & Parke LLP v. Troice</u>, 134 S. Ct. 1058 (2014), "confirms the logic and holding" of <u>Herald I</u>, where the Second Circuit ruled that the state law claims of Madoff feeder fund investors were precluded by SLUSA. In that connection, paraphrasing <u>Troice</u>, the Second Circuit held that Madoff feeder fund investors, such as plaintiffs here, were victims of Madoff's fraud who "'tried to take . . . an ownership position in . . . covered securities," thereby satisfying SLUSA's "in connection with" requirement. <u>Herald II</u>, slip op. at 8.

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Herald II is virtually on "all fours" with this case. We therefore submit that this Court properly dismissed plaintiffs' state law claims pursuant to SLUSA in its opinion in this action dated September 3, 2013 (the "9/3 Order"). In the same vein, we submit that the opinion of this Court dated April 14, 2014 reconsidering the 9/3 Order in light of Troice (the "4/14 Order") should be vacated, and Tremont intends to promptly file a motion with this Court seeking such relief.

In the interim, Tremont also will be pursuing an appeal from the 4/14 Order. As the Court will recall, by Order dated May 22, 2014, Your Honor granted Tremont's motion to certify an interlocutory appeal from the 4/14 Order to the Second Circuit pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b). As a result, under applicable deadlines, Tremont must file a petition for interlocutory appeal with the Second Circuit by Monday, June 2, 2014 in order to preserve its ability to pursue that appeal, if necessary. We expect that Tremont will withdraw that petition should the appeal become unnecessary, *i.e.*, in the event this Court grants Tremont's forthcoming motion and vacates the 4/14 Order.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth M. Schwartz

Attachment

cc: All counsel of record (by e-mail)

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12-156-cv(L) Trezziova v. Kohn

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

August Term, 2012

(Argued: April 5, 2013; Petitions filed October 1, 2013; Decided: May 28, 2014)

Docket No. 12-156-cv (L), 12-162 (Con)

In re: HERALD, PRIMEO, AND THEMA

Dana Trezziova, Neville Seymour Davis,

Plaintiffs-Appellants-Petitioners,

REPEX VENTURES, S.A., ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED, SCHMUEL CABILLY, KOREA EXCHANGE BANK,

Plaintiffs,

-v.-

SONJA KOHN, PRIMEO SELECT FUND, PRIMEO EXECUTIVE FUND, HANNES SALETA, ERNST & YOUNG GLOBAL LIMITED, HSBC SECURITIES SERVICES (LUXEMBOURG) S.A., HSBC HOLDINGS PLC, BANK MEDICI, UNICREDIT, BANK AUSTRIA, PIONEER GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT S.P.A., ALFRED SIMON, KARL E. KANIAK, HANS-PETER TIEFENBACHER, JOHANNES P. SPALEK, NIGEL H. FIELDING, JAMES E. O'NEILL, ALBERTO LAROCCA, DECLAN MURRAY, URSULA RADEL-LESZCYNSKI, MICHAEL

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WHEATON, BA WORLDWIDE FUND MANAGEMENT, LTD., PIONEER ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD., BANK OF BERMUDA (CAYMAN) LIMITED, BANK OF BERMUDA (LUXEMBOURG) S.A., BANK OF BERMUDA LIMITED, ERNST & YOUNG (CAYMAN), ALBERTO BENBASSAT, STEPHANE BENBASSAT, GENEVALOR, BENBASSAT & CIE, GERALD J.P. BRADY, JOHN HOLLIWELL, SONJA KOHN, DANIEL MORRISSEY, DAVID T. SMITH, WERNER TRIPOLT, BANK MEDICI AG, UNICREDIT SPA, HSBC INSTITUTIONAL TRUST SERVICES (IRELAND) LTD., HSBC SECURITIES SERVICES (IRELAND) LTD., HSBC HOLDINGS PLC, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS INTERNATIONAL LTD., PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS (DUBLIN), PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS BERMUDA, THEMA ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED, BA WORLDWIDE FUND MANAGEMENT LIMITED, PETER MADOFF, ANDREW MADOFF, MARK MADOFF, WILLIAM FRY, JPMORGAN CHASE & CO., BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, HERALD (LUX), MESSRS. FERDINAND BURG AND CARLO REDING, THE COURT APPOINTED LIQUIDATORS FOR HERALD (LUX), HERALD ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED, UNICREDIT BANK AUSTRIA AG, HERALD USA FUND, ERNST & YOUNG S.A., FRIEDRICH PFEFFER, FRANCO MUGNAI, THEMA INTERNATIONAL FUND PLC,

Defendants-Appellees-Respondents,

BERNARD L. MADOFF, BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT SECURITIES, BANK MEDICI S.A., PETER SCHEITHAUER, HERALD USA FUND, HERALD LUXEMBURG FUND, BANK AUSTRIA CREDITANSTALT, UNICREDIT S.A., PIONEER ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS, HSBC SECURITIES SERVICES, S.A., HAML, PAUL DE SURY, GABRIEL SAFDIE, WILLIAM A. JONES, HELMUTH E. FREY, ANDREAS PIRKNER, RICHARD GODDARD, ERNST & YOUNG, FRIEHLING & HOROWITZ,

> Defendants. Before:

PARKER and CARNEY, Circuit Judges, and RAKOFF, District Judge.*

^{&#}x27;The Honorable Jed S. Rakoff, United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, sitting by designation.

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Plaintiffs-Appellants Neville Seymour Davis and Dana Trezziova filed petitions seeking panel rehearing or rehearing en banc of both this panel's opinion concerning SLUSA and its related summary order concerning forum non conveniens. Because we did not misapprehend or overlook any point of law or fact and because the intervening Supreme Court ruling concerning SLUSA, Chadbourne & Park LLP v. Troice, 134 S. Ct. 1058 (2014), confirms our opinion's logic and holding, we deny the petitions for panel rehearing.

Appearances:

ERIC ALLEN ISAACSON (Joseph D. Daley, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP; Francis A. Bottini, Jr., Albert Y. Chang, Bottini & Bottini, Inc.), Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, San Diego, CA, for Plaintiff-Appellant-Petitioner Neville Seymour Davis.

Patrice L. Bishop, Stull, Stull & Brody, Beverly Hills, CA, for Plaintiff-Appellant-Petitioner Dana Trezziova.

ANDREW RHYS DAVIES (Laura R. Hall), Allen & Overy LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent JPMorgan Chase & Co.

LEWIS J. LIMAN (Jeffrey A. Rosenthal), Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation.

- THOMAS G. RAFFERTY (Antony L. Ryan), Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent PricewaterhouseCoopers (Dublin) on behalf of the "Forum Non Conveniens Defendants."
- Thomas J. Moloney, David E. Brodsky, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, New York, NY, for Defendants-Appellees-Respondents HSBC Holdings plc, HSBC Securities Services (Ireland) Limited, HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Ireland) Limited, and HSBC Securities Services (Luxembourg) S.A.
- Michael E. Wiles, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, New York, NY, for Defendants-Appellees-Respondents Alberto Benbassat, Stephane Benbassat, Genevalor, Benbassat & Cie, Gerald J.P. Brady, Daniel Morrissey, David T. Smith, Thema Asset Management Limited, and Thema International Fund plc.
- William R. Maguire, Marc A. Weinstein, Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent Ernst & Young (Cayman).
- Michael S. Flynn, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.
- Sanford M. Litvack, Dennis H. Tracey, III, Lisa J. Fried, Hogan Lovells US LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent Pricewaterhouse Coopers Bermuda.
- Jay P. Lefkowitz, Joseph Serino, Jr., David S. Flugman, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, New York, NY, for Defendants-Appellees-Respondents Herald USA Fund, Franco Mugnai, and Friedrich Pfeffer.
- Jeff G. Hammel, Maria A. Barton, Latham & Watkins LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent Hannes Saleta.

- Richard A. Martin, Katherine L. Maco, Alison K. Roffi, Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent Ernst & Young S.A.
- Claudius O. Sokenu, John Gueli, Shearman & Sterling LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent Ernst & Young Global Limited.
- Franklin B. Velie, Jonathan G. Kortmansky, Mitchell C. Stein, Sullivan & Worcester LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent UniCredit Bank Austria AG.
- Price O. Gielen, Nathan Daniel Adler, Neuberger, Quinn, Gielen, Rubin & Gibber, P.A., Baltimore, MD, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent Sonja Kohn.
- Brett S. Moore, Porzio Bromberg & Newman P.C., New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent Herald (LUX) by and through Messrs. Ferdinand Burg and Carlo Reding, the Court-Appointed Liquidators for Herald (LUX).
- Susan L. Saltzstein, Marco E. Schnabl, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent UniCredit S.p.A.
- Mitchell J. Auslander, James C. Dugan, Wilkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent William Fry.
- Fraser L. Hunter, Jr., Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, New York, NY, for Defendant-Appellee-Respondent PricewaterhouseCoopers International Ltd.

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PER CURIAM:

On September 16, 2013, this Court filed an opinion affirming the judgment of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (Richard M. Berman, Judge), which dismissed the plaintiffs' state-law claims against defendants JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Bank of New York Mellon Corporation as precluded by the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998 ("SLUSA"), 15 U.S.C. § 78bb(f). In re Herald, Primeo, and Thema, 730 F.3d 112 (2d Cir. 2013) (holding that SLUSA precludes state-law class action claims against these banks because the claims are predicated on the banks' involvement with the fraudulent securities transactions of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities ("Madoff Securities")). Simultaneously, this Court filed a summary order affirming the District Court's dismissal of claims against the remaining defendants on the ground of forum non conveniens. In re Herald, Pimeo, and Thema, 540 F. App'x 19 (2d Cir. 2013).

Plaintiffs-Appellants Dana Trezziova and Neville Seymour Davis filed petitions seeking panel rehearing and rehearing en banc of both the SLUSA opinion and the *forum non conveniens* summary order. In view of the Supreme

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Court's grant of certiorari to an appeal from a Fifth Circuit judgment concerning the reach of SLUSA, we postponed a decision on these petitions. Now that we have reviewed the resulting Supreme Court opinion, *Chadbourne & Park LLP v*.

Troice, 134 S. Ct. 1058 (2014), and received briefing from the parties concerning its effect on *In re Herald*, the petitions are ripe for determination. Because the fraud perpetrated by Madoff Securities was "material to a decision by one or more individuals (other than the fraudster) to buy or to sell a 'covered security,' "

Troice, 134 S. Ct. at 1066, the Supreme Court's ruling confirms the logic and holding of *In re Herald*. Accordingly, we deny the petitions.

Troice clarifies the scope of SLUSA by delineating an outer limit to its requirement that the fraud be "in connection with the purchase or sale of a covered security." 15 U.S.C. § 78bb(f)(1). Specifically, Troice arose from the scheme by Allen Stanford to induce victims to purchase certificates of deposit of the Stanford Investment Bank, certificates that were rendered worthless when Stanford's Ponzi scheme was revealed. But those certificates of deposit were indisputably not "covered securities," and the closest that the plaintiffs in Troice could get to statutorily defined "covered securities" was the allegation that Stanford induced purchase of the uncovered securities by, among other

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misrepresentations, vague promises that the Stanford Investment Bank had significant holdings in various covered securities.

This, the Supreme Court held, was too remote. The plaintiffs in *Troice* were not seeking, directly or indirectly, to purchase covered securities. *See Troice*, 134 S. Ct. at 1062. Thus, a plaintiff in *Troice* was entirely distinguishable from "a victim who took, *tried to take*, or maintained an ownership position in the statutorily relevant securities through 'purchases' or 'sales' induced by the fraud." *Id.* at 1067 (emphasis supplied).

Madoff Securities, by contrast, fraudulently induced attempted investments in covered securities, albeit through feeder funds (not alleged in the instant complaints as anything other than intermediaries), and the defendant banks are alleged to have furthered that scheme. Madoff Securities' victims thus "tried to take . . . an ownership position in the statutorily relevant securities," *i.e.*, covered securities. That Madoff Securities (a Ponzi scheme) fraudulently failed to follow through on its promise to place the investments in covered securities does not in any respect remove this case from the ambit of SLUSA as defined in *Troice*.

We have considered the other arguments raised in the petitions, and they are without merit. Accordingly, we DENY the petitions for panel rehearing.